

3/12/08

Good Morning

My name is Bill Berry. I am President of the Guardian Angels one of the chapters of People 1st. I am here today in regards to Bill#575 Act Concerning Establishment of a Task Force to study Day Program services offered through D.D.S. I want Sheltered Workshops to be closed. I have had an experience with one myself and I can say I wasn't happy with it. I used to think they just a way to get Consumers out of the house. There are times when there isn't even any work and people just sit and stare. I know a lot of Consumers who are capable of having a regular job-including myself. Marc is now trying to help me find a job. It seems like people spend too much of their Tax dollars building Sheltered Workshops instead of Schools 'Homes E..C. Oh I do know 'its good for people to get out of their house but at the same time it's not good to just sit there with no work. One other issue with Sheltered Workshops 'they don't pay minimum wage either. Down time was only say 15 cents an hour. You would only get paid by the work you do. Say you would come home with a paycheck that would be say \$20.00 for two weeks. That's not very much to live on. So in conclusion this Morning -I hope we can resolve this problem'because in my opinion'I wouldn't even let a Caveman work at one!